



RUTLAND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
CITY OF RUTLAND
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Regular Meeting / March 28, 2017
Minutes

Attendance: Dave Cooper, Brennan Duffy, Ed Clark, Stephanie Romeo, Barbara Spaulding, Israel Mac, Chris Etori, Mike Gauthier, Betsy Bloomer and Wendy Wilton.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 8:03 am.
- II. Agenda Additions/Deletions – None.
- III. Ed moved to approve the minutes of March 14, 2017. Chris seconded. Motion was approved.
- IV. Public Comment – No one from the public was in attendance to address the Board.
- V. Ed moved to authorize Dave to sign the warrant for payment of Fund 800 expenses totaling \$271.68. Stephanie seconded. Motion was approved.
- VI. Barbara provided the following grant updates:

SVCOA – Southwest Vermont Council on Aging received approval for the additional \$50,000 bringing the final grant award to the full \$300,000 requested. Mayor Allaire signed the amendment and Barbara is working on resubmitting the initial requisition in light of the amended grant agreement. The project is expected to be completed in June.

Rutland Creek Path Segment 4 – In auditing invoices submitted by the Lamoureux and Dickinson, Barbara discovered duplicate billing and over billing totaling \$3800. The invoices have been corrected. Dave asked for an update on all 5 phases of the project, Segments 1-2 are complete. Segment 3 is the keystone bridge and will be the last segment to be constructed. The design is near completion and easements are in place for Segment 4. Segment 5 preliminary design is now 60% done.

Hickory Street Phase 3 – The draft grant agreement has been received and work is being done on the award conditions. The GA needs review by City Attorney before executing.

Center Street Market Place – An Additional Services contract with Stantec for \$38,750 has been executed and filed. The additional services cover redesign of the project to lower the construction costs. Brennan added that after latest redesign, the project is expected to still be \$250,000 over funds available. The project steering committee is meeting on Thursday to discuss requests for additional funding from the Board of Alderman (Zamias Fund), Rutland City Rotary (Centennial Project).

VTrans is reviewing latest design, once approval is granted, project will go out to bid for the third time and hopefully will be built this fall. Israel suggested the RRA step forward and agree to manage the project for the City and bring it to completion.

RCPCC – Betsy asked if there were any changes to the project following the announcement that Caprice will be leaving the Rutland County Parent Child Center as Executive Director. Barbara reported Caprice is expected to be sub-contracted to manage the project to completion.

VII. Brennan provided the following project updates:

Strong's Avenue – The Board of Finance approved \$260,000 for Parker Excavating to begin construction of the Gateway Project. These funds will be combined with Rutland Blooms, DPW and the Downtown Transportation Fund Grant. Expectation is to complete the project in August. Strong's Avenue will remain open during construction. Mayor Allaire agreed to encourage Vermont Railway's participation in the project.

Beverage Mart – Wendy asked for an update on the Beverage Mart property. Nothing new to report, property is still available for purchase.

Evelyn Street – Project meeting was canceled due to winter storm Stella.

TIF – The TIF legislative initiative is still in process, but has been combined with an Affordable Housing Bill that includes a \$2 per night room tax which could mean the demise of this legislative package. Brennan testified again last week at the State House and the Rutland Delegation is in support of the TIF program being re-opened.

Northwest Neighborhood – The Northwest Neighborhood Project Steering Committee will meet with Mayor Allaire to brief him on the project. NeighborWorks of Western Vermont is still waiting to hear on grant award.

Regional Marketing – Mondo Mediaworks has been meeting with local groups to begin their marketing work. The Quality of Life Subcommittee, chaired by Brennan, is meeting on Thursday. Other subcommittees are Workforce and Tourism (which includes the Killington Valley initiative). Wendy asked about benchmarks and metrics for success. Brennan reported there is a schedule of work for benchmarks and the steering committee is still developing longer term metrics.

Downtown Storefronts – Betsy asked about progress on filling the vacant storefronts in Downtown. Brennan reported that Mike Coppinger had indicated there are 3-4 leads for some of the spaces.

VIII. DRP Update – No one from the DRP was present at the meeting, the last Board meeting conflicted with RRA meeting time. Dave and Brennan met with DRP leadership to discuss succession planning after Mike Coppinger's resignation. The

3/28/17

DRP is doing a local search for an interim Executive Director, as well as, a full time Executive Director for the long term. The RRA will request DRP Board Members to attend our next meeting in April for their required quarterly update.

- IX. New Business – The treasurer’s reports for the periods ending January (7) and February (8) were received by the Board.

Board of Aldermen Update: Chris Etori will be providing BOA meeting updates at RRA Board meetings.

- X. Old Business – None.

- XI. Wendy moved to adjourn. Chris seconded. The meeting ended at 9:05 am.

These minutes approved this ____ day of _____, 2017.

Betsy Bloomer, Secretary